

Docket No. 213252US0PCT

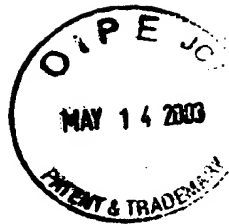
IN RE APPLICATION OF: Bruno PROVOT, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/926,100

FILED: September 28, 2001

FOR: NEUTRON ABSORBER MATERIAL BASED ON BORON CARBIDE AND HAFNIUM AND METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 1731"

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SIR:  
Transmitted herewith is an **Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.116 (w/attached Marked-Up Copy)** in the above-identified application.

- ☐ No additional fee is required  
☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.  
☐ Additional documents filed herewith:

The Fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS	CLAIMS REMAINING		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID	NO. EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL	11	MINUS	20	0	x \$18 =	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	4	MINUS	3	1	x \$84 =	\$84.00
		<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			+ \$280 =	\$0.00
		TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS				\$84.00
		<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity				\$0.00
		<input type="checkbox"/> Recordation of Assignment			+ \$40 =	\$0.00
		TOTAL				\$84.00

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- ☒ A check in the amount of **\$84.00** is attached.
- ☒ Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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213252US-0 PCT



"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 1731"

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
BRUNO PROVOT ET AL : EXAMINER: FIORILLA, C.  
SERIAL NO: 09/926,100 :  
FILED: SEPTEMBER 28, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1731  
FOR: NEUTRON ABSORBER MATERIAL  
BASED ON BORON CARBIDE  
AND HAFNIUM AND METHOD  
FOR MAKING SAME

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated March 7, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) Process for manufacturing a neutron absorbent material, said material being a composite material containing boron carbide and hafnium, comprising the following steps:

- adding hafnium powder to a powder of boron carbide,

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